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## HISTORY OF THE ORGANIZATION OF THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF INTERNATIONAL LAW

At the Eleventh Annual Meeting of the Lake Mohonk Conference on International Arbitration, held May 31–June 2, 1905, at the Mountain House, Lake Mohonk, Ulster County, New York, it appeared from informal discussion and exchange of views, among the various members present, that a strong desire existed for the formation of a society or association for the advancement of international law and for the establishment of a periodical in English devoted to the interests of international law in this country. An informal committee, composed of Messrs. George W. Kirchwey, Robert Lansing, and James Brown Scott, met on Thursday afternoon, June 1, to consider the feasibility of organizing such a society, and of bringing the proposal before the members of the conference for its approval or rejection.

As a preliminary thereto the committee interviewed Justice Brewer, Judge George Gray, ex-Chief Justice Stiness, Prof. John Bassett Moore, and various members of the conference specially interested in the professional and theoretical study of international law, and, encouraged by the favorable responses from all consulted, the committee determined to take the sense of the conference upon the proposal. Accordingly, Mr. Kirchwey made an address before the conference Friday morning, June 2, proposing the organization of such a society and the establishment of a journal of international law as the organ of such society. At the conclusion of his address Mr. Kirchwey submitted the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That this conference regards with favor the movement to establish a society of international law in the United States and of an American journal of international law, and pledges its earnest sympathy with the aims and purposes of such a movement.

This was immediately seconded from the floor of the conference, and referred to the Business Committee of the conference for its

consideration. Judge Gray, President of the conference, warmly commended the motion in a short but pointed address, and an invitation was extended to all interested in the project to meet at 1 p. m. in the Rock Reading Room to consider the feasibility of undertaking the matter.

Pursuant to this general invitation extended to the members of the conference twenty-four gentlemen met in the Rock Reading Room:

Hon. Samuel J. Barrows  
D. Chauncey Brewer, Esq.  
Hon. David J. Brewer  
Charles Henry Butler, Esq.  
Dr. L. T. Chamberlain  
John Bates Clark, Esq.  
Hon. George Gray  
Prof. Charles Noble Gregory  
Prof. Ernest W. Huffcut  
Augustine Jones, Esq.  
William V. Kellen, Esq.  
Gen. Horatio C. King

Prof. G. W. Kirchwey  
Robert Lansing, Esq.  
Walter S. Logan, Esq.  
William C. Morey, Esq.  
Dr. C. W. Needham  
Hon. Frank Plumley  
Prof. James Brown Scott  
Hon. J. H. Stiness  
Hon. Oscar S. Straus  
Prof. George G. Wilson  
Hon. Frederick C. Wadhams  
Hon. Everett P. Wheeler.

Mr. Kirchwey called the meeting to order and moved that Hon. Oscar S. Straus take the chair, which was unanimously agreed to. Mr. Kirchwey thereupon moved that Mr. Scott be chosen secretary of the meeting, which motion was likewise carried. Mr. Kirchwey then addressed the meeting upon the aims and purposes thereof, saying, after a brief outline of the present movement, that no international law society existed in the United States, although such societies exist on the Continent and in England, and that no journal is published in the English language devoted exclusively or indeed generally to the exposition and development of international law. He concluded by moving "that it is the sentiment of this meeting that an American international law society be formed and that a journal of international law be founded to appear in connection with and as the organ of such society."

Mr. Everett P. Wheeler expressed himself as in favor of the motion, but suggested that the American Bar Association had a sub-committee devoted to international law (of which committee he was

the chairman), and that it might be possible to enlarge this committee of the Bar Association so as to meet the purposes of the present motion. He likewise thought that perhaps more would be accomplished by strengthening the Bar Association in this respect and by affiliation with the European organizations than by forming an independent organization.

Mr. Charles Henry Butler maintained, on the contrary, that the European associations, although international in name, were yet "European rather than international in sentiment; that there was therefore a need of an association which would more truly represent American ideas and ideals on the subject, and that in any case a journal was indispensable for the expression of American thought and opinion."

In this view he was strongly supported by Mr. Charles Noble Gregory, who narrated his experiences as both member and officer of an European association.

Mr. Ernest W. Huffcut agreed with the expediency of the original motion, but suggested that inasmuch as international law was so largely composed of law and history, the association might be formed to meet alternately in conjunction with the Bar Association and with the American Historical Association.

Mr. George G. Wilson called attention to the recent organization (in 1904) of the American Political Science Association, and suggested that if Mr. Huffcut's plan found favor the International Law Society should rather alternate with the Bar Association and American Political Science Association. He likewise thought that inasmuch as the American Political Science Association had a committee on international law, it might be well to affiliate with that association rather than to form an independent society.

Mr. Robert Lansing, after stating in forcible terms the expediency of forming an independent society for the advancement of international law, moved that a committee be appointed by the Chair to consider whether or not such association be formed.

Mr. Walter Logan objected that a motion (Mr. Kirchwey's) was already before the meeting, whereupon Mr. Lansing offered his motion as an amendment to Mr. Kirchwey's motion. Mr. Kirchwey

promptly accepted the amendment, so that the motion as amended was before the meeting.

Mr. Needham spoke in favor of the amended motion, after which the original motion as amended was put by the chair and unanimously carried. Mr. Huffcut thereupon rose and moved the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That a committee be appointed by the Chair to draft a form of organization for an American international law society and to issue a call for a subsequent meeting to perfect such organization; that the committee have the power to increase their number not to exceed twenty-one.

Upon suggestion of Mr. Lansing the minimum membership was reduced from ten to seven. Mr. Huffcut further suggested that Mr. Straus should be a member of this committee. The motion as amended in these particulars was put and carried unanimously. The meeting thereupon adjourned to meet at the call of the Chair.

In the course of the afternoon, Mr. Straus appointed a committee of seven, as provided for in the resolution, to consist of the following members:

Charles Henry Butler	John Bassett Moore
George W. Kirchwey	James Brown Scott
Robert Lansing	Oscar S. Straus
	George G. Wilson

Mr. Straus notified the members of their appointment and issued a call for a meeting of the committee thus formed at 6 p. m. The committee of seven met at the hour specified and elected Mr. Straus permanent chairman and Mr. Scott permanent secretary and treasurer, and chose the remaining members of the committee of organization. The committee thus finally constituted was as follows:

Chandler P. Anderson, Esq.  
 Hon. James B. Angell, President University of Michigan  
 Prof. Joseph H. Beale, Jr.  
 Charles Henry Butler, Esq.  
 Justice David J. Brewer, U. S. Supreme Court  
 Hon. J. M. Dickinson, U. S. Alaskan Commission  
 Hon. John W. Foster, ex-Secretary of State

Hon. George Gray, U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals  
 Prof. Charles N. Gregory  
 Hon. John W. Griggs  
 Prof. George W. Kirchwey  
 Robert Lansing, Esq.  
 Prof. J. B. Moore  
 Hon. W. W. Morrow  
 Prof. L. S. Rowe  
 Prof. James B. Scott  
 Hon. Oscar S. Straus, formerly minister to Turkey  
 Hon. Everett P. Wheeler  
 Hon. Andrew D. White, ex-ambassador to Germany  
 Prof. George G. Wilson  
 Prof. Theodore S. Woolsey

The committee thereupon adjourned to meet at the call of the Chair at such time and place as he might determine in order definitely to organize and adopt a constitution for the American International Law Society.

At the final meeting of the Conference on International Arbitration, held Friday evening, June 2, Mr. Straus reported to the conference the following recommendations as the results of the day's deliberations, namely, that the American International Law Society be formed; that a journal of international law be established in connection therewith; and that a committee of representative gentlemen had been selected in order to organize the society upon a permanent basis. He then called upon the secretary to read the minutes of the two meetings and the list of members of the committee of twenty-one on organization. At the conclusion of the reading Mr. Stiness, chairman of the Business Committee of the conference, thereupon reported that the Business Committee (to which Mr. Kirchwey's resolution had been referred) unanimously endorsed and adopted the resolution, and Mr. Stiness, as chairman, expressed the hope that the organization contemplated might be perfected and realize in large measure the hopes of its founders.

After the adjournment of the Lake Mohonk Conference the members of the committee of seven residing in New York City, namely, Oscar S. Straus, Chandler P. Anderson, George W. Kirchwey, John

Bassett Moore, and James Brown Scott, met repeatedly at the residence of Mr. Straus in order to discuss the measures to be taken to complete the organization. A tentative constitution was drawn up and approved by the New York representatives of the committee of seven, and it was decided to submit the draft of the constitution, as well as the project for the establishment of a journal of international law, to such members of the committee of twenty-one as would be present at a meeting to be held on the 9th of December, 1905, for which a call was issued on the 24th of November, 1905. Mr. Straus invited the committee of twenty-one to dinner at his home, and the following ten were present: Chandler P. Anderson, J. M. Dickinson, George Gray, Charles Noble Gregory, George W. Kirchwey, John Bassett Moore, Leo S. Rowe, James Brown Scott, Oscar S. Straus, George G. Wilson. In addition to these members, Mr. Straus invited a few gentlemen interested in international law to be present and aid the committee with their advice in the work of organization. These gentlemen included Hon. Richard Bartholdt, Dr. Nicholas Murray Butler, Hon. Andrew Carnegie, Prof. Harry A. Garfield, Hon. William J. Gaynor, Archbishop Ireland, Hon. David Leventritt, Dr. Albert Shaw, Isador Straus, Esq., Hon. Stewart L. Woodford. At the conclusion of the dinner, Mr. Straus called the meeting to order and explained the purpose thereof, the nature of the proposed organization, its value and importance. He stated the progress that had been made toward the organization of the Society "to foster," in the language of Article II of the proposed constitution, "the study of international law and promote the establishment of international relations on the basis of law and justice." For this purpose, he continued, a society composed of specialists and persons interested would form a nucleus, that the annual meetings contemplated would bring the various members together, and that the papers read and discussions thereupon might not only spread but create an interest in international law as a science. But, he said, the Society so constituted would reach a limited number and might, if so confined, tend to become a social organization, and thus fail of its *raison d'être*, namely, to popularize and develop international law. For this purpose it was very desirable, he added, that there should be some

suitable organ for the Society, and suggested a journal, devoted solely to the subject of the science of international law, since there was no publication in the English language devoted exclusively to this subject. The establishment of such a journal would, he concluded, reflect credit upon the Society, as well as furnish the most efficient means of developing international law.

Mr. Straus then called upon Mr. Scott to read the minutes of the meeting at Lake Mohonk, 1905, at which the movement for the organization of the Society was initiated, and also to read the draft of the constitution. The minutes were read and approved. The constitution was likewise approved, with slight emendations, and the provisional organization of the Society under the auspices of the committee of twenty-one was completed by the election of Mr. Chandler P. Anderson as Treasurer. Mr. Straus then called upon Mr. Scott to read his plan for the establishment of the journal of international law. The plan submitted was as follows:

#### DRAFT OF THE PROPOSED JOURNAL OF INTERNATIONAL LAW

In order that the Society may have a mouthpiece and that international law may have a journal devoted exclusively to its interests, it is essential that a periodical be published under the auspices of the Society.

The journal in contemplation should contain:

(1) The various selected addresses and papers read at the meetings of the Society;

(2) Original articles of an historical or critical nature dealing with the various phases of international law;

(3) Articles of present interest dealing with important principles of international law necessarily involved in questions of the present day;

(4) A chronicle of important international events, such as treaties, conventions, arbitrations, and awards; such acts of this and other countries recognizing or declaring, applying, or modifying, or in any way concerning or involving questions of international law; decisions of domestic and foreign courts based upon or affecting international law, such as, for example, the recent South African Rand Case (*West Rand Central Gold Mining Company v. The King*, Law Reports (1905), 2 King's Bench Division, p. 391).

(5) A summary or synopsis of the literature of international law. For example, a summary of leading articles on international law published in American and English as well as in foreign periodicals; notices of pamphlets and brochures of value which may have appeared in America, England, or in foreign countries. In a word, an international law *Review of Reviews*.

(6) A careful and comprehensive bibliography of American, English, and foreign publications relating to international law as they issue from the press.

(7) Book reviews of the more important of the publications mentioned above, such reviews to be written by specialists and to be accurate and thorough, so as to be a safe guide to reader and student alike.

(8) There should likewise be a section of editorial comment, in which the magazine might express its views on international matters as in the case of the *Law Quarterly* or the *Outlook*.

The establishment of such a journal would be of great service to students and specialists, as well as to the lay reader, for it would be the only journal in the English language exclusively devoted to the interests of international law. It would also be of importance in the development of international law, for it would offer an ever ready means of reaching and instructing the public. Its contributors would naturally be specialists in international law, such as professors, international law practitioners, diplomatists, and students of diplomatic history. Articles should be solicited from the great foreign authorities and publicists of France, Germany, Italy, Spain, not to omit Russia. When received, these articles should be translated and published in English.

The preparation of a magazine of this nature would involve great industry and labor, patience, and time, so that it could not well appear as a monthly — at least at present. It would probably be best to issue it quarterly; and the name might well indicate the locality, "The American Journal of International Law," or perhaps the frequency of publication, such as "The International Law Quarterly."

In order to effectuate these purposes and aims, there should be an editor-in-chief, assisted by a board of editors, who should respectively assume control of certain of the departments or divisions of the journal.

The journal should be under the direct control of the Executive Council, which should appoint a subcommittee or board of control for this purpose.

The draft was approved as read. It was further decided, as a necessary preliminary to the publication of the journal, that a final and permanent organization of the Society should be immediately effected, and upon the suggestion of Mr. Straus it was resolved to call a meeting for this purpose, to be held January 12, 1906, at half-past 8, in the rooms of the Bar Association of the city of New York.

Pursuant to this resolution, the Secretary, on December 27, issued a call to the committee of twenty-one and various other gentlemen interested in the propagation of international law to attend a meeting on the above-mentioned date. At this session the constitution approved at the previous meeting was definitely adopted, amending Article III to read:

#### ARTICLE III.

##### *Membership*

Members may be elected on the nomination of two members in regular standing by vote of the Executive Council under such rules and regulations as the Council may prescribe.

Each member shall pay annual dues of five dollars and shall thereupon become entitled to all the privileges of the Society, including a copy of the publications issued during the year. Upon failure to pay the dues for the period of one year a member may, in the discretion of the Executive Council, be suspended or dropped from the rolls of membership.

Upon payment of one hundred dollars any person otherwise entitled to membership may become a life-member and shall thereupon become entitled to all the privileges of membership during his life.

A limited number of persons not citizens of the United States and not exceeding one in any year, who shall have rendered distinguished service to the cause which this Society is formed to promote, may be elected to honorary membership at any meeting of the Society on the recommendation of the Executive Council. Honorary members shall have all the privileges of membership but shall be exempt from the payment of dues.

There was much discussion, however, before this form was finally agreed upon. Some of those who took part in it were William M. Ivins, Judge Hiram Steele, Judge Penfield, formerly Solicitor for the

Department of State; General Horatio C. King, and Dr. Albert Shaw.

Judge Steele was in favor of restricting the Society to members of the legal profession and former members of the diplomatic service. This view was supported by Mr. Ivins. Charles Henry Butler said that the English Society of International Law had among its membership steamship companies, railroad companies, and insurance companies. Before the laughter that the mention of insurance companies had aroused ceased Mr. Ivins was again on his feet and protested against the commercialism that the admission of such corporations would introduce into the Society. Particularly was he opposed to insurance companies as a part of the Society.

Admit as members lawyers, diplomats, professors, clergymen, and journalists, if you will, but let us restrict the membership so that when this Society will appear before an international conference it will have a good standing and prestige.

Judge Penfield believed that the advice of men in the commercial world would be of value to the members, while Frederic R. Coudert, Jr., took a practical view of the situation, and said that the lawyers would control the Society anyway, even with nonprofessional men as members. "But what we need besides the brains of the lawyers," he added, "is money as the sinews of war for peace."

When the question was finally put, however, the commercial bodies were ruled out.

Mr. James Brown Scott, the Acting Secretary, announced that letters had been received expressing the regrets of the writers at their inability to be present and their cooperation with the movement. The letters were received from Joseph H. Choate, former Chief Justice Alton B. Parker, Hon. Andrew Carnegie, Justice Leventritt, Prof. John Bassett Moore, President Nicholas Murray Butler, of Columbia University, and Judge Morrow. In accordance with the constitution, a nominating committee of three was appointed by the chairman, to consist of Prof. George W. Kirchwey, Dr. Albert Shaw, and Charles Henry Butler. This committee reported the following names, and they were declared elected upon vote of the Society:

President, Elihu Root; Vice-Presidents, Chief Justice Melville W. Fuller, of the United States Supreme Court, Associate Justices David J. Brewer and William R. Day, Andrew Carnegie, Joseph H. Choate, former Secretary of State John W. Foster, Judge George Gray, former Attorney-General John W. Griggs, Judge William W. Morrow, former Secretary of State Richard Olney, Oscar S. Straus, and Secretary of War William H. Taft.

The men elected to the Executive Council were Dr. James B. Angell, Ann Arbor, Mich., former Minister to China and Turkey; Chandler P. Anderson, New York, associate counsel for the United States on Alaska Boundary and Bering Sea Commissions; Senator Augustus O. Bacon, Georgia; Congressman Richard Bartholdt, Missouri, former president of the Interparliamentary Union; Charles Henry Butler, Washington, reporter of the Supreme Court of the United States; Jacob M. Dickinson, Chicago, counsel for the United States for the Alaska Boundary Tribunal; Prof. Charles N. Gregory, Iowa; Congressman Robert R. Hitt, Illinois, chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee; Prof. G. W. Kirchwey, dean of the Columbia Law School; Senator P. C. Knox, Pennsylvania, formerly Attorney-General of the United States; Robert Lansing, New York, associate counsel on Bering Sea Claims Commission; Prof. John Bassett Moore, formerly Assistant Secretary of State, professor of international law Columbia University; Frank C. Partridge, Vermont, former Minister to Venezuela; William L. Penfield, Washington, solicitor for the United States in the Venezuelan arbitration; Horace Porter, New York, formerly Ambassador to France; Prof. Leo S. Rowe, professor University of Pennsylvania; Prof. James B. Scott, professor of law Columbia University; Carl Schurz, New York, former Minister to Spain and Secretary of the Interior; Senator John C. Spooner, Wisconsin; Charles B. Warren, Michigan, associate counsel for the United States on the Bering Sea Claims Commission; Dr. Andrew D. White, Ithaca, N. Y.; Everett P. Wheeler, New York; Prof. Theodore S. Woolsey, professor of international law, Yale University; Prof. George G. Wilson, professor of international law, Brown University, and lecturer of law in the United States Naval College.

The meeting then adjourned, to reassemble at a time and place to be determined by the Executive Council in accordance with Article VI of the constitution.

#### MEETINGS OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

On January 29, 1906, at 4 p. m., in the Hubbard Memorial Hall, Washington, D. C., the first regular meeting of the Executive Council of the American Society of International Law was held, with the President, the Hon. Elihu Root, in the chair. The members present were:

Elihu Root, President	George W. Kirchwey
John W. Foster, Vice-President	Horace Porter
Oscar S. Straus, Vice-President	Leo S. Rowe
Chandler P. Anderson	James B. Scott
Richard Bartholdt	Charles B. Warren
Charles Henry Butler	George G. Wilson

The meeting was called to order by the President, and proceeded to complete the organization of the Society in pursuance of Article IV, clause 2, by the election of James B. Scott as Recording Secretary, Charles Henry Butler as Corresponding Secretary, and Chandler P. Anderson as Treasurer of the Executive Council and of the Society.

Hon. Oscar S. Straus was chosen chairman of the Executive Committee.

In accordance with the provisions of the constitution, an executive committee composed of members of the Executive Council was chosen as follows:

#### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Hon. Elihu Root	Robert Lansing, Esq.
Hon. John W. Foster	Prof. John Bassett Moore
Hon. George Gray	Prof. George G. Wilson
Prof. George W. Kirchwey	

#### *Ex-officio*

Hon. Oscar S. Straus, Chairman  
 James B. Scott, Recording Secretary  
 Charles Henry Butler, Corresponding Secretary  
 Chandler P. Anderson, Treasurer

It was moved and carried that a prospectus of the aims and objects of the Society be drawn up by the Secretary, submitted to the President, and upon his approval printed and sent out with the official communications of the Society.

Upon a suggestion by Mr. Rowe in the matter of life membership, it was moved and carried "that the Treasurer be instructed to invest all dues arising from life membership and to keep the same as a permanent fund, the income from which shall be devoted to the interests of the Society."

The question of the time, place, and nature of the annual meetings was discussed and referred to the Executive Committee with direction to prepare and report a place at a subsequent meeting.

Mr. Scott then reread the prospectus for the American Journal of International Law as presented at the meeting of the organizing committee on December 9, 1905, at the residence of Mr. Straus.

After the reading and discussion of the proposed prospectus, it was moved by Messrs. Kirchwey and Butler and carried "to approve the project for the Journal of International Law, and that the matter be referred to the Executive Committee with the approval of the Council."

It was thereupon moved to adjourn subject to the call of the President.

Carried and adjourned.

In accordance with the decision of the Executive Council in the above-recorded meeting, a prospectus concerning the Society was published in pamphlet form, together with the constitution and list of officers. The prospectus was as follows:

#### PROSPECTUS

##### *The Aim and Scope of the American Society of International Law*

From the very beginning of our national existence the people of the United States have been keenly interested in the common law of nations. In an ordinance of 1781, passed before the recognition of independence, Congress professed obedience to the law of nations "according to the general usages of Europe," and in the act of admis-

sion to the family of nations the new Republic recognized international law as completely as international law recognized the new Republic. Nor was this formal acceptance of international law the passing fancy of the moment. The Constitution of the United States proclaimed it as an existing system and solemnly conferred upon Congress the power to punish "offenses against the law of nations." It is therefore the law of the land by constitutional enactment, as well as by the necessities of the case, and the General Government as well as courts of justice have invariably and unhesitatingly declared that "international law is a part of our law, and must be ascertained and administered by the courts of justice of appropriate jurisdiction as often as questions of right depending upon it are duly presented for their determination." (*The Paquete Habana*, 1899, 175 U. S. 677, 700.)

If it be borne in mind that the course of recent events has not only given to our country a more prominent and influential position in the family of nations than it had previously enjoyed, but has brought Government and people into closer and more intimate relations with the Spanish-American States in the Western World and the peoples of the Eastern, it is at once evident that Government and people are fundamentally and constitutionally interested in international law, and that a correct understanding of the system as a whole is an essential element of good citizenship.

Thus to state the problem is to prove it and to make manifest to the American people the fundamental importance of a correct understanding of those principles of international law which our country is called upon to observe in its foreign relations, and to administer as municipal law in our domestic tribunals. The establishment of new and more effective agencies to promote the study of these principles and to extend their influence at home and abroad is a duty incumbent upon enlightened citizenship.

Profoundly impressed by these considerations, the American Society of International Law was organized at New York on the 12th day of January of the present year, and it is believed that the influence of an association of publicists and others organized to represent these interests of our people would count for much in the formation of a sound and rational body of doctrine concerning the true principles of international relations. It is equally certain that the publication of a journal devoted to the exposition of those principles would offer a ready and valuable means of communication between jurists and students of international law on the one hand, and the scientific and lay public on the other. The absence of any

organization in the United States having for its first and sole object the promotion of these purposes, and the lack in the English-speaking world of any periodical devoted exclusively to international law indicate the need of such a society.

American publicists, such as Kent, Marshall, Story, Wheaton, Halleck, Lieber, Lawrence, Dana, Field, Woolsey, and Wharton — not to mention those among the living — have made many and varied contributions to the science of international law. It is too plain for argument that the existence of such an organization with annual and special meetings and the publication of a periodical exclusively devoted to international law will not only furnish a nucleus and incentive but also a means of communication. It would likewise seem equally clear that the Society and Journal would necessarily and directly foster the study of international law and promote the establishment of international relations upon the basis of law and justice.

On June 1, 1906, at the Twelfth Annual Meeting of the Lake Mohonk Conference the next meeting of the Executive Council was held. The business taken up at this meeting was the definite arrangement to launch the Journal of International Law as proposed by Mr. James Brown Scott in his outline read at a previous meeting. Upon motion of John W. Foster, seconded by David J. Brewer, Mr. Scott was appointed Managing Editor of the American Journal of International Law and authorized to publish the same as the organ of the American Society of International Law. Mr. Scott was further authorized to draw upon the Treasurer for \$600 per year, or any necessary amount not to exceed that sum, for the purposes of clerical assistance in editing the proposed Journal. The Managing Editor was also given power to name an editorial board of not less than seven to cooperate with him in the editing of the Journal. The meeting then adjourned.

The Executive Council met at the office of Hon. Oscar S. Straus, Department of Commerce and Labor, on the afternoon of April 19, 1907. The members present were: Oscar S. Straus, chairman; George G. Wilson, Charles N. Gregory, T. S. Woolsey, W. L. Penfield, John W. Foster, Robert Lansing, Chandler P. Anderson, Charles Henry Butler, James Brown Scott, Charles B. Warren.

At this meeting the Treasurer's report was referred to an auditing

committee of two appointed by the Chair upon motion by a member of the Council, which motion was carried. Messrs. Butler and Penfield were appointed. It was moved and carried that the number of Vice-Presidents be increased from twelve to thirteen. Moved, that a nominating committee of the following members be appointed; carried: Robert Bacon, William A. Prendergast, Theodore S. Woolsey, Charles B. Warren, W. W. Willoughby. This committee reported the names of the various officers to be presented for election at the meeting of April 20, 1907. Prof. Thomas E. Holland was recommended by Mr. Scott for election to honorary membership in the Society as of the year 1906. Chief Justice Fuller recommended the election of Dr. Heinrich Lammasch honorary member as of the year 1907. Upon motion of Prof. George G. Wilson a committee of three was appointed for the presentation of the candidates for honorary membership to the Society. The Chair appointed Messrs. Wilson, Woolsey, and Penfield.

#### MEETINGS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Meetings of the Executive Committee were held in February and March, 1906, to discuss various questions, such as whether or not the Society should be incorporated, methods of advertising the Society and securing members, and arrangements for the publication of the American Journal of International Law. The committee also elected many new members at its various meetings, but finding that it was necessary to proceed more expeditiously with the elections, a sub-committee of three was appointed, upon motion of John W. Foster, to act as committee on membership. This committee consists of John W. Foster, Charles Henry Butler, and James Brown Scott. Various plans were also discussed for the holding of the first annual meeting.

During January and February, 1907, meetings of the Executive Committee were held in the office of Hon. Oscar S. Straus, Department of Commerce and Labor, Washington, D. C., when arrangements were made to call the annual meeting of the Society on Friday and Saturday, April 19 and 20, 1907. The invitations were accordingly issued, and the meeting was held in accordance with the program which follows:

*Friday Morning at 10 o'clock.*

Address of Welcome.

General Business.

Address by the President of the Society.

*Papers and discussion on:*

1. Would immunity from capture during war of nonoffending private property upon the high seas be in the interest of civilization?
2. Is the trade in contraband of war unneutral, and should it be prohibited by international and municipal law?

*Friday Afternoon at 2.30 o'clock.*

Continuation of Unfinished Business.

*Papers and discussion on:*

Is the forcible collection of contract debts in the interest of international justice and peace?

*Friday Evening at 8 o'clock.*

Continuation of Unfinished Business.

*Papers and discussion on:*

The rights of foreigners in the United States in case of conflict between Federal treaties and State laws.

*Saturday Morning at 10 o'clock.*

*Papers and discussion on:*

The Second Hague Conference and the development of international law as a science.

*Saturday Afternoon at 2 o'clock.*

The President of the United States will receive the members of the Society at the White House.

*Saturday Evening at 7 o'clock.*

Banquet at the New Willard Hotel.